

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached drawing sheet containing Figs. 2 and 3 replaces the original sheet containing Figs. 2 and 3.

The figures in the replacement sheet have not been amended. The originally filed drawing sheet was poorly photocopied.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 4, 5, 17, 18, 26, and 27 are pending. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-4, 8-11, 13-17, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Reddersen U.S. Pat. No. 6,176,429.

Claims 5-7, 12, 18, 19 and 22-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Reddersen U.S. Pat. No. 6,176,429.

Two independent claims are pending: claim 26 and claim 27.

The independent claims substantively recite in part:

“reading image data from a statement on which information is formed thereon one or more of bar code data, OCR-recognizable characters, or handwritten characters,”

“identifying a statement type by comparing the image data with patterns of statement data,”

“recognizing the bar code data and the character data,” and processing the statement depending on whether the recognized bar code data is verified and whether the recognized character data is verified.

Reddersen discloses a reader that uses a job control bar code printed on the item to identify the type of data encoding (barcode, OMD) that is printed on the item. Redderson does not show “identifying statement type by comparing the image data” that is read from statement. Reddersen does not show processing the statement depending on whether the recognized bar code data is verified and whether the recognized character data is verified.

**CONCLUSION**

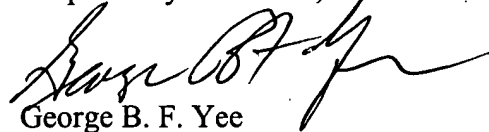
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 09/900,076  
Amdt. sent July 19, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of March 29, 2006

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-324-6352 (direct line).

Respectfully submitted,



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